

REPORT OF NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 10th December 1887.

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URIYA PAPERS.

Nil.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Ahammadi" ...	Tangail, Mymensingh...	.....
2	"Kasipore Nibási" ...	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
3	"Ave Maria" ...	Calcutta ...	.....
4	"Gaura Duta" ...	Maldah ...	.....	28th November 1887.
5	"Púrva Bangabási" ...	Noakhally ...	.....
6	"Púrva Darpan" ...	Chittagong ...	700	
7	"Silehar" ...	Silchar, Assam ...	.....
8	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi" ...	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....	15th ditto.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Arya Darpan" ...	Calcutta ...	102	2nd December 1887.
10	"Bangabási" ...	Calcutta ...	20,000	3rd ditto.
11	"Burdwán Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	302	29th November 1887.
12	"Cháruvartá" ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	28th ditto.
13	"Chattal Gazette" ...	Chittagong ...	.....	29th ditto.
14	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca ...	450	4th December 1887.
15	"Dhumaketu" ...	Chandernagore ...	.....	2nd ditto.
16	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly ...	825	
17	"Garib and Mahavidya" ...	Dacca ...	.....	30th November 1887.
18	"Grambási" ...	Uluberia ...	.....	1st December 1887.
19	"Hindu Ranjiká" ...	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	30th November 1887.
20	"Murshidábád Patriká" ...	Berhampore ...	508	
21	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ...	Ditto ...	.....

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week
BENGALI—concluded.				
<i>Weekly—concluded.</i>				
22	"Navavibhakar Sādhāranī"	Calcutta	1,000	5th December 1887.
23	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	450	28th November 1887.
24	"Prajā Bandhu"	Chandernagore	995	2nd December 1887.
25	"Pratikār"	Berhampore	600	2nd ditto.
26	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore	205	1st ditto.
27	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	30th November 1887.
28	"Samaya"	Ditto	2,350	2nd December 1887.
29	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	3rd ditto.
30	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	800	
31	"Sāraswat Patra"	Dacca	400	
32	"Som Prakāsh"	Calcutta	1,000	5th ditto.
33	"Srimanta Saudagār"	Ditto	.....	15th November 1887.
34	"Sulabha Samāchār and Kusadaha"	Ditto	3,000	2nd December 1887.
35	"Surabhi and Patākā"	Ditto	700	1st ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
36	"Dainik and Samachār Chandrikā"	Calcutta	7,000	4th, 5th & 8th December 1887.
37	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto	200	2nd to 8th December 1887.
38	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	
39	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
40	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	.....	5th December 1887.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
41	"Kshatriya Pratika"	Patna	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
42	"Aryāvarta"	Calcutta	.....	29th November 1887.
43	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore	.....
44	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	1st December 1887.
45	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	500	28th November 1887.
46	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto	4,500	
47	"Hindi Samāchār"	Bhagulpore	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
48	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Calcutta	250	2nd December 1887.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
49	"Aftal Alum Arrah"	Arrah	.....
50	"Anis"	Patna	.....
51	"Gauhur"	Calcutta	196	28th November 1887.
52	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar	150	
53	"Al Punch"	Bankipore	.....	5th December 1887.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
54	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	340	3rd ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
55	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	212	1st to 8th December 1887.
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
56	"Taraka and Subhavartā"	Cuttack	.....
57	"Pradip"	Ditto	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
58	"Utkal Dirikā"	Cuttack	200	
59	"Balasore Samvad Vāhika"	Balasore	205	
60	"Sanskārik"	Cuttack	200	
61	"Navasamvād"	Ditto	
62	"Uriya"	Balasore	

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE Samaya, of the 2nd December, approves of the appointment of Sir Drummond Wolff as British Ambassador in the Persian Court. Having been for a long time Ambassador in the Turkish Court, Sir Drummond has undoubtedly made himself well acquainted with the manners and customs of the Mahomedans. He will probably be able to defend British interests in Persia. As an Ambassador, he will have to keep an eye upon the movements of Ayub Khan, and to prove himself equal in statecraft to the Russian Ambassador in the Court of the Shah. It will also be his duty to explain to the King of Persia that the British Government is a fast friend of his.

SAMAYA,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

2. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 2nd December, would like to know what reply Anglo-Indians can give to the statement of M. Notovitch that there are two Mussulman mosques for one Christian church everywhere in Central Asia, that the expenses of those mosques are borne by the Russian Government, that there are 40 native commanders in the Russian army, that Russia has never annexed the territories of her allies in the way England has annexed the Berars, and that many princes allied to the English Government are eager to obtain the protection of Russia, whilst not one prince in alliance with Russia has even sought the protection of England.

PRAJA BANDHU,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

3. The *Gaura Duta*, of the 28th November, reports a case of daring dacoity at the house of one Ram Saran Roy of Nawabgunge, a village near old Maldah. It is stated that the dacoits have carried off Rs. 1,000 in cash, and four or five persons have been badly wounded. The police has up to this time failed to trace the dacoits. This proves the inefficiency of the local police. It is also stated that there was no policeman present in the village on the night of the dacoity. The prevalence of theft in that locality has been complained of, but the police has taken no notice of it. Is the police asleep?

GAURA DUTA,
Nov. 28th, 1887.

4. The *Grámbásti*, of the 1st December, says that the conduct of the police officers in Bengal is such that one cannot help thinking that the people would have enjoyed greater peace if there had been no police among them. The police seems to have lost all its former ability, and has become extremely corrupt and oppressive. The police is connected with most of the offences committed in the country. But nothing of all this comes to the knowledge of the higher authorities. The accounts which are published in the newspapers regarding the misdoings of police officers are not in the least exaggerated. That these misdoings are not proved is because the majority of the Bengal villagers are a timid and ignorant people. The provision of the law which makes the giving of a bribe an offence is a serious obstacle in the way of proving the corruption of the police. Men give bribes to the police in order to escape oppression at its hands, but they do not venture to inform the authorities of it from a fear of being themselves punished. Really educated men have not yet entered the Police Department. Government should soon reform the police by introducing men of education and character into it. Sir Steuart Bayley is requested to attend to the matter.

GRAMBASTI,
Dec. 1st, 1887.

BANGABASI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

5. The *Bangabási*, of the 3rd December, disapproves of the appointment of military officers in the Police Department. The newspapers which advocate the interests of military officers are very sorry to find in the grade of Superintendents of Police only 16 military officers in Madras, 9 in Bombay, 8 in the North-Western Provinces, and 5 in Bengal. They are blaming Government for not employing a larger number of military men in the Police Department, and are threatening to send a memorial to the Secretary of State on this subject. Now Government may, if it thinks necessary, increase the number of military men in the Police Department in the other Provinces; but instead of increasing their number in the Bengal Police, it should send away elsewhere the five military men who are already in it. Not to speak of military men, even European officers are not required for the Bengal Police. Generally speaking the people of Bengal give the least trouble to the police, and strict measures are not required to keep them in check. The European officers of the Bengal police, instead of preserving the peace, are often found to break it. They have no experience of the country or its people. Nothing like what Jagadish and Mahendra have accomplished in the Police Department with ease, and without oppressing the people, has been effected by a Gordon or a John Noyin (*sic.* in orig.) None of the military officers who have served in the Police Department have been able to win the applause or admiration of the people. The tact and ability shown by Kite, Smith, Wauchope or Munro have not been approached by Captain Gordon or Major Murdoch. The credit enjoyed by the European officers of the Bengal Police, not excepting men like Wauchope and Munro, was in a great measure due to native officers serving under them. The credit of suppressing thuggee should belong to Chandra Sikhar Roy. There have been few European police officers in Bengal who have not received valuable instruction from Jagadish Nath Roy. All good European officers in the Police Department highly praised Baboo Mahendra Nath Hazra for his tact and ability. Many Bengalis have served in the Police Department with distinction, and there are many Bengalis in that service who can fill with credit the higher posts in that Department. Baboo Jagadish Nath Roy would have creditably discharged the duties of the Inspector-General or of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police. Even now a trial may be given to Baboo Mahendra Nath. If the object of Government be to increase the efficiency of the Police Department, deserving Bengalis should be appointed to high posts in that Department according to their fitness. If, on the other hand, the object of Government be not to do so, the present system of recruiting men for the Police Department may be allowed to continue. But the interest of both the rulers and the ruled require that military officers should on no account be entertained in the Police Department, for their employment in that department is calculated to increase the difficulties of Government on the one hand and the suffering of the people on the other.

BANGABASI.

6. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the prevalence of theft at Khanyan, a village in Hooghly. It is stated that a theft was committed even at the local post-office. These thefts are said to be committed by some low-class drunkards.

The constable and the chowkidars do not properly perform their duty, and the police has not yet succeeded in apprehending any of the thieves.

BANGABASI.

7. Another correspondent of the same paper reports a case of highway robbery near Mathurapore in Dinagapore. It is stated that the highwaymen robbed one Thanu Sonar of jewellery worth Rs. 1,000.

Highway robbery near Mathurapore
in Dinagapore.

under the following circumstances :—While the Sonar was returning from a *hat* on horseback, he was encountered on the way by these ruffians and one of them struck him. The Sonar fell insensible on the ground, and the highwaymen made off with a parcel containing the jewellery. The Police has not yet succeeded in tracing these *budmashes*.

BANGABASI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887

8. Another correspondent of the same paper complains that the punchayet collects the chowkidari tax from the inhabitants of Bankul, a village in the Howrah district, with unusual rigour, but chowkidars are seldom found to perform their duty at night; even on moonlight nights the chowkidars seldom go on their rounds. The establishment of an outstill at the village is doing incalculable mischief to the poorer classes. Cultivation has suffered a great deal on account of the increase of drunkenness among the agriculturists.

9. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 3rd December, complains that the police officers of the Sherpore thana, in the district of Bogra, employ the chowkidars of the villages within their jurisdiction to perform their domestic work. The Sub-Inspector, the jemadar, the constable and the Moonshi all do this. They also extort money from the chowkidars as *nuzzur* and *parbani*. When the chowkidars go to the thana for the purpose of reporting, they are detained there for seven or eight days to the great inconvenience and insecurity of the villagers. The chowkidars do not venture to go to the thana without taking money with them for the police officers; and as the chowkidars are themselves unable to pay this money, it has at last to be paid by the villagers. One effect of these extortions has been the enhancement of the chowkidari tax assessments. The officers of the thana are extorting warm clothing from every zemindar, and what money the zemindars spend for this purpose is forcibly recovered by them from the villagers.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

10. The *Som Prakash*, of the 5th December, says that villagers enjoyed peace and security under the old chowkidari system; but since the employment of constables as *paharawallas*, peace and security has disappeared from the villages of Bengal. The chowkidar kept watch all night; but the *paharawalla* is nowhere to be found when any disturbance occurs. The present police cannot apprehend thieves. It only harasses the owners of the houses in which thefts occur. The present system of keeping watch in the villages is such that it may well be doubted whether two *paharawallas* can keep the peace as efficiently as one chowkidar of old could. Of the large amount of money spent by Government in the maintenance of the police, by far the best portion finds its way into the pockets of highly paid police officers whose services are not at all required. If Government abolishes all high posts in the Police Department, except those of Inspector-General and District Superintendent, a large saving may be effected, which will enable it to increase the number of chowkidars; and if it re-establishes the old chowkidari system, it will not have to spend anything for the chowkidars, because the villagers will gladly pay their salaries.

SOM PRAKASH,
Dec. 5th, 1887.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

11. A correspondent of the *Paridarshak*, of the 28th November, complains of the high-handed proceedings of Baboo Akshay Kumar Chatterjee, Sub-divisional Officer of Sunamgunge in Assam. It is stated that the Baboo recently ordered the

PARIDARSHAK,
Nov. 28th, 1887.

Baboo Akshay Kumar Chatterjee,
Deputy Magistrate of Sunamgunge,
Sylhet.

court constable to pull a witness by the ear for his delay in answering a question put to him in cross-examination. The Government is requested to look to the matter.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
Dec. 1st, 1887.

12. The *Surabhi and Pátaká*, of the 1st December, says that, though the decision passed in the case of Nabakumar, Head-constable, *versus* Jogendra Nath, by

The Ranaghat Police case.

the Sub-Deputy Collector of Ranaghat, gave satisfaction to everybody, the Magistrate, Mr. Waller, ordered the Sub-divisional Officer of Ranaghat to institute a fresh enquiry into the case. In his minute on this case, the Magistrate has remarked that the Sub-Deputy Collector has unjustly fined Nabakumar. This means that Mr. Waller does not believe a Sub-Deputy Collector, but he believes a head-constable worth Rs. 10 a month. It is not easy to see under what section of the Penal Code Mr. Waller ordered the Sub-divisional Officer to make a fresh enquiry. The Sub-divisional Officer stated in his first report on the case that he could collect no satisfactory evidence on the question of whether Jogendra was really drunk or not, and whether the constable instituted a false prosecution or not. This report roused Mr. Waller's anger, and so, after administering a rebuke to the Deputy Magistrate, he asked him again to make a special enquiry. This time Mr. Waller's hint was rightly understood, and so in his second enquiry the Deputy Magistrate easily found out that the case for the prosecution was not false, forgetting that he had stated in his first report that, as the case had happened long ago, no satisfactory evidence could be had regarding it.

PRATIKAR,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

13. The *Pratikár*, of the 2nd December, complains of the high-handed proceedings of Mr. Muller, Sub-divisional Officer of Goalundo. It is alleged that he

Mr. Muller, Deputy Magistrate.

bears some grudge against Bahoo Parbati Sankar Roy, zemindar of Dowlatdia. The Baboo has taken a lease of certain churs on the Pudma from Government, and the ryots of that chur have become refractory. Mr. Muller has sided with the rebellious ryots on account of his old grudge against the zemindar, and has advised them to proceed against the zemindar, and passed strict orders about the zemindar's taking any action with a view of opposing his ryots. He also pays no attention to the just prayers of the zemindar. In order to harass the zemindar, Mr. Muller went to his cutcherry in person and arrested the officers and the amlah of the cutcherry. He incites the refractory ryots to pull down the houses of the peaceful ryots, and in spite of the existence of the special constables, he gives orders to the rebellious ryots to plunder the paddy and other crops of the peaceful ryots. The writer asks Government in a tone of despair how long peace will be maintained in this country if it continues indifferent as now to the work of administration, and if it employs in that work officers who are many times more tyrannical than Seraj-ud-daula.

BANGABASI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

14. The *Bangabási*, of the 3rd December, says that English Judges have no idea of the sort of mental excitement which drives a Hindu to kill his faithless

The trial of a murderer.

wife. One Gobind Bagdie was recently tried at the Alipore Criminal Sessions for committing a triple murder. It is said that Gobind found his wife in the act of criminal intercourse with another man. The sight infuriated him and he killed his wife first and her paramour next. He then stabbed another woman in his house and her paramour. Unchastity in the wife is unbearable even to the people of the lowest classes in this country; in fact, it drives even them to madness. And so it is provocation of the most violent kind that leads them to kill their unchaste wives and their paramours. In the present case, however, the presiding Judge, Mr. Beveridge, could not take the offence of Gobind in the same light in which it was taken by the Hindu jurors; and so the case has been referred to

the High Court. It is necessary, however, that some Hindu Judge of the High Court should review the case, because English Judges fail to do justice in such cases. What Englishmen regard as justice in such cases, the people of India regard as injustice.

15. The *Sanjivani*, of the 3rd December, strongly objects to the circular issued by the Commissioner of Dacca forbidding Deputy Magistrates to admit persons to bail in cases which are not bailable under the law. Hitherto Deputy Magistrates had been admitting persons to bail in such cases at their option. As the police often accuse innocent persons of non-bailable offences, the circular in question will have the effect of compelling many innocent men to rot in *hajut*. The Commissioner's order should be strongly protested against.

A criminal circular.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

(d)—Education.

16. The *Paridarshak*, of the 28th November, does not approve of the site selected at Chali Bandar for a boarding house for school-boys by the Deputy Commissioner and the Civil Surgeon. The selection is objected to on the following grounds:—

A boarding house for the students of Sylhet.

PARIDARSHAK,
Nov. 28th, 1887.

- (1) Chali Bandar is probably the most unhealthy part of the town.
- (2) The night-soil of the Sylhet Municipality, as well as of the local jail, is deposited in the neighbourhood of Chali Bandar.
- (3) The burial-ground and the cremation ghat are situated very close to Chali Bandar.
- (4) There are marshes on both sides of the place.

17. The *Cháruvartá*, of the 28th November, is sorry to find that the petition of the Under-graduates' Association for the introduction of Bengali as one of the second languages in the F. A. Examination of the Calcutta University has been rejected. The growth and development of the Bengali language will suffer a serious check in consequence of this action of the Fellows of the Calcutta University.

Bengali in the F. A. Examination of the Calcutta University.

CHARUVARTA,
Nov. 28th, 1887.

18. A correspondent of the *Chattal Gazette*, of the 29th November, says that a Hindu girl of the Dakshin Bhurshi Circle School in Chittagong passed the Lower Primary Scholarship Examination in the First Division and was entitled to a scholarship; but to her disappointment, the Deputy Inspector of Schools awarded no scholarship to her on the plea that she had appeared at the examination from a middle class school. It was also stated at that time that she would receive a pecuniary reward from Government, but up to this time she has got nothing.

A girl of the Dakshin Bhurshi Circle School in Chittagong.

CHATTAL GAZETTE,
Nov. 29th, 1887.

19. The *Sulabh Samáchar* and *Kushdaha*, of the 2nd December, is glad to find Mr. Tute, Magistrate of Balasore, endeavouring to settle the quarrel which has arisen between Kumar Baikuntnath De and Baboo Bhagaban Chundra Das, Joint-Secretaries of the Barbati Middle English School in Balasore. The manner in which Mr. Tute proposes to settle the quarrel will, it is hoped, be satisfactory to all the parties concerned.

The school quarrel in Balasore.

SULABH SAMACHAR &
KUSHDAHA,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

20. The *Samáya*, of the 2nd December, says that every Bengali feels specially indebted to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for his opening a class for female students in the Calcutta Campbell Medical School. This act of the Lieutenant-Governor will be productive of great good in future.

A class for female students in the Calcutta Campbell Medical School.

SAMAYA,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

SAMAYA,
Dec. 2nd 1887.

21. The same paper says that there is a regular clique in the Education Department amongst persons who want to get their books registered as text-books

Selection of text-books. for schools. The head-master of a school opens a book-shop and the head clerk of an Inspector of Schools, a Deputy Inspector of Schools, and an Inspector of Schools, consent to send their books to his shop on condition of his getting them sold without charging any commission. Having thus secured high patronage, he next enters into an arrangement with obscure authors under which the latter send their books for sale to his shop and consent to give him a commission of 75 per cent. on the transaction on his getting their books registered as text-books. As it is not often convenient to get two or three books written by the same obscure author registered as text-books, books written by one man are often announced as being other men's books.

Baboo Rajendra Mohan Dutt, Head-master of the Dacca Madrassa, has a book-shop. One Baboo Ram Chandra Chakravarti, who was the family priest and a boon companion of Baboo Ram Sundar Basak, head clerk of the Inspector of Schools, Dacca, wanted to get three books written by himself admitted into the list of text-books for the year 1885-86. As it was found inconvenient to set down three books written by the same man on the list, one only was entered in the name of the real author, and the other two were entered under other names, namely, one in the name of the author's sister's son and another in the name of Baboo Rajendra Mohan Dutt, Head-Master, Dacca Madrassa! Thus a book called the *Nitipath*, which in the first edition, had appeared to have been written by Baboo Ram Chandra Chakravarti and published by Baboo Rajendra Mohan Dutt appeared in the second edition, with the name of the author put in that of the publisher, and the name of the publisher put in that of the author. So it seems that Baboo Rajendra Mohan Dutt, though the head-master of a school, was not ashamed to appear in the false character of a writer of books! The practice of transferring officers from one place to another obtains in the Education Department, and so the Director of Public Instruction should break this clique by sending the men composing it to very different places.

BANGABASI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

22. A respectable correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 3rd December, contradicts the statements made in a previous issue of that paper regarding the head-master of the B. L. Institution, Boinchee (see Weekly Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 26th November 1887, paragraph 26.) The editor remarks that the subject is now under the consideration of the District Magistrate, who will make careful enquiries in his capacity of Superintendent of that Institution, and no opinion should be passed until the Magistrate's judgment is published.

The B. L. Institution, Boinchee.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

PARIDARSHAK,
Nov. 28th, 1887.

23. The *Paridarshak*, of the 28th November, complains that the roads within the Sylhet Municipality are again out of repair. Lately the roads were repaired only with rubbish and dust. People had to wade through mud during the rainy season, and now they are wading through dust. Is no one responsible for this imperfect repair of the roads?

The roads within the Sylhet Municipality.

CHARU VARTA,
Nov. 28th, 1887.

24. A correspondent of the *Charuvarta*, of the 28th November, complains that the Mymensing District Board has not paid the salaries and stipends of the inspecting pundits, circle pundits, and gurus of that district since its establishment in June last.

The Mymensingh District Board.

CHARUVARTA,
Nov. 28th, 1887.

25. Another correspondent of the same paper complains that the public have no opportunity of knowing anything about the proceedings of the Netrokona Municipality. A rate-payer lately questioned a Municipal Commissioner about the proceedings of a meeting at which the Commissioner was present, but was told that the proceedings of that meeting would be kept secret. But the municipal law does not provide for keeping such proceedings secret. The municipality sanctioned Rs. 75 for illuminating the town on the occasion of the Jubilee, but it has not yet paid the money. The municipality has founded a scholarship for the encouragement of female doctors, but it pays no attention to the improvement of the pathsalas situated within its own jurisdiction, and where the children of the poor rate-payers receive instruction.

26. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 29th November, says that the present municipal system, under which the right of election is enjoyed by all men paying a certain fixed sum in municipal rates, and no distinction is made between the votes given by the wealthy and the educated on the one hand, and by illiterate people on the other, has often been known to lead to serious failure. As the illiterate people can, on account of their numerical strength, always command a majority of votes, it is they who practically rule the elections in most cases. And as they are men who cannot be expected to elect impartially, or with care and sagacity, their election often proves a failure. When, however, they are guided by men of education and experience, the elections turn out to be a success. But a system in which the right of election is vested only in a few educated men would not be faultless, for the simple reason that the election will then be, not the election of the general public but only of a very small fraction thereof. It is necessary, however, that the present system of election should be changed.

Lastly, as the municipal election is approaching, it behoves the rate-payers of Burdwan to hold meetings in their respective wards for the purpose of selecting their future Commissioners.

27. The *Garib and Mahavidya*, of the 30th November, points out the following irregularities in connection with the working of the system of Local Self-

The Dacca District Board.

Government in Dacca:—

1. Under the Local Self-Government Act the officers serving under the District Board are not required to perform any work in connection with *khas mehals*. But the Engineer and Overseer of the District Board have been employed in the Wari khas mehal, in Dacca, in the work of clearing jungle.

2. The Engineer of the District Board and his subordinates were employed in levelling and keeping clean the play-grounds of the European residents at Dacca. It is not known who pays them for such work. The salaries of these officers are paid by the District Board, but they are employed in doing work with which the Board has no concern. Is no one responsible for this? The members of the District Board are requested to look to the matter in the interests of the public.

28. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 30th November, argues that, considering that the municipal affairs of such a backward district as Maldah have been successfully

Village unions.

managed by a non-official Chairman and by elected Commissioners, no reason can be assigned why the establishment of village unions in the mofussil should not also prove a success. The sanitary condition of the mofussil is very bad, and the average rate of mortality there is very high. Village unions

HINDU RANJIKA,
Nov. 30th, 1887.

will be the best agency for improving the sanitary condition of the mofussil. The villagers should therefore get up an agitation for the establishment of village unions. It is gratifying to find that the Tahirpore Agricultural Office is trying its best to have village unions in the Rajshahye district. It is hoped that the District Board and the Local Boards of the Rajshahye district will also pay particular attention to the subject. If they cordially assist in the undertaking, the establishment of village unions in Rajshahye will be assured in a very short time.

HINDU RANJIK,
 Nov. 30th, 1887.

29. The same paper says that the rate-payers of the Rampore Beauleah Municipality are greatly dissatisfied with the present Municipal Commissioners for their neglect to improve certain parts of the town. The Commissioners paid no attention to the wants and grievances of the rate-payers residing in quarters which are not inhabited by respectable people, or where the number of respectable people is very few. If the Commissioners had performed their duties properly and satisfactorily, and without making any distinction between the rich and the poor, their administration of municipal affairs would not have been condemned in this manner, and butchers would not have come forward as candidates for election at the coming municipal elections.

PRAJA BANDHU,
 Dec. 2nd, 1887.

30. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 2nd December, says that in order that the experiment of Self-Government may not fail through party spirit or *dala-dali*, it is necessary that the public should be made to understand the real nature and vast practical importance of municipal Self-Government. It is only educated, unselfish and enthusiastic men, who have time and inclination to do municipal work, that should be elected Municipal Commissioners. The rate-payers should not elect any resident of a different ward as their representative, unless they fail to find a fit man in their own ward to represent them. Men who have retired from business should not be elected Municipal Commissioners. No one should consider Municipal Self-Government to be a trifling thing. This municipal Self-Government will open the door to higher political privileges and greater benefits than Indians have hitherto enjoyed.

SANJIVANI,
 Dec. 3rd, 1887.

31. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 3rd December, refers to the carrying of a proposal in the District Board of Rungpore for the increase of the salary of the District Engineer, in spite of the opposition of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and some other respectable members, and in spite of the strong reasons shown by one of the opponents of the proposal, and asks, from whom will people expect justice if educated men trample upon justice in this manner? That money wrung from the people should be wasted in this way is intolerable. If such things continue to occur under the Self-Government system, the correspondent, though a Bengali, will heartily pray for its abolition in Bengal, and especially in an unenlightened district like Rungpore.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
 Nov. 28th, 1887.

32. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 29th November, says that every year a rumour is heard that the construction of a railway from Ranaghat to Santipore will be soon commenced, and prays to God that the rumour may prove true this year.

SAHACHAR,
 Nov. 30th, 1887.

33. The *Sahachar*, of the 30th November, says that, in order to prevent accidents to country-boats, lights should be posted at night over the railway bridge at Hooghly.

34. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 3rd December, complains that the roads at Deulpore, a village in the Howrah district, are out of repair. The

Roads at Deulpore in Howrah.

matter was brought to the notice of the members of the Road Cess Committee several times during the last two years, but without any result.

BANGABASI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

35. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 3rd December, says that

A road from near Kulchanda Chutee to Nasigram, in Burdwan.

a petition has been submitted to the Chairman of the Burdwan Road Cess Committee, praying for the construction of a road from near Kulchanda Chuttee, to Nasigram. The proposed road will be a source of great convenience not only to the people of the 15 or 16 villages who have submitted the petition, but also to the people of 20 or 30 other adjacent villages. The Burdwan Road Cess Committee will be greatly to blame if it does not undertake such a useful work. The Committee will indeed do a very good work if it spends the money which the petitioners pay as road cess in making this road for them.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

36. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 4th December, says that there was

A railway line from Dacca to Goalundo.

a loss of Rs. 2,72,500 last year, and of Rs. 1,33,000 in the year before, in the working of the Dacca-Mymensingh Railway. This

loss is owing to the fact of there being no facility for the transport of goods from Dacca to Goalundo. The steamer fare from Dacca to Goalundo is six annas per maund, and the steamers take 14 or 15 days to go from Dacca to Goalundo. But goods can be sent by country-boats from Tangail or Suvarnakhuli to Goalundo at a cost of only four annas per maund and in two or three days. Goods can also be sent from Mymensingh to Dacca by country-boats in only five or six days. Consequently people do not send goods by the Dacca-Mymensingh Railway when they can possibly help doing so. And so that railway is suffering loss. This may be prevented by joining the Mymensingh line with the Eastern Bengal State Railway. A vast quantity of goods is carried from Dacca to Goalundo. Not a fourth of this quantity is now carried by steamers. If the proposed line from Dacca to Goalundo can secure only the traffic which is now conveyed by steamers, it will have an annual income of nearly 12 lakhs and a half. The money required for the construction of the proposed line will be 65 lakhs of rupees, taking the cost of each mile of railway to be 75 thousand rupees and the cost of a bridge over the Dhalesvari to be 33 lakhs. The interest on this sum will be Rs. 2,27,500, and the probable annual cost of the working of the line will be five lakhs. Thus there will be left a net profit of five lakhs of rupees for the railway. Thus the loss from the Dacca-Mymensingh Railway will be made up, and the trade and agriculture of Eastern Bengal will be stimulated and the facility of communication in and with that part of the country will greatly increase. There is at present great irregularity in the arrival of the steamers. This is a source of pecuniary loss to the Postal Department. Government also suffers inconvenience at times from the late arrival of the steamers. The other day, Mr. Martin, Inspector of Schools, Dacca Circle, complained of the inconvenience felt by him during his journey in a steamer.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Dec. 4th, 1887.

37. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the want of good

Want of good roads at Habibpore.

roads in the village of Habibpore, under the Gournadi station in the Burrisal district.

About Rs. 2,500 is collected every year in that part in the shape of road cess. But the villagers have obtained no benefit in return for their money, although they have repeatedly applied to the authorities for the construction of good roads.

DACCA PRAKASH.

SOM PRAKASH,
Dec. 5th, 1887.

38. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 5th December, mentions some cases in which inexperienced Englishmen have been placed over the heads of able and experienced native officers in the Bengal State Railway. Mr. Jacobson was appointed Assistant Traffic Inspector after serving as a guard and as a station-master for only a year or year-and-a-half. But Baboo Nimchand De, who has served in the Bengal State Railway for about ten years, has obtained no promotion, and has been, on the contrary, transferred and degraded. Hemchand Baboo, who was acting as a Traffic Inspector in the Bengal State Railway, has been transferred to the Dacca Railway, and has been appointed there as station-master. Again, one Mr. Veres, who learned work from Baboo Purna Chandra Singh, has been in the course of a year or two promoted to a higher post than that held by that able and experienced native officer. Again, one Mr. Brown, who was never in the Traffic Department, was at once appointed Traffic Inspector. This Mr. Brown was once dismissed because a train narrowly escaped collision through his negligence; and yet he has been appointed as a Traffic Inspector on the Dacca line, while Nimchand Baboo has been degraded from the post of Traffic Inspector to that of a station-master.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Dec. 5th, 1887.

39. A correspondent of the *Dacca Gazette*, of the 5th December, says that, if the steamer plying between Goalundo and Naraingunge passes *viá* Chandpore, the inhabitants of the last-named place will be benefited and the company will derive an additional income. The mails for Noakholly will also reach that place half a day earlier. This change of route can be easily effected. The proposed change of route will produce a little delay, but the Company will be amply compensated for this by the additional profit which it will derive. Will the Company attend to the matter?

(h)—General.

SRIMANTA SADAGAR,
Nov. 15th, 1887.

40. The *Srimanta Sadágar*, of the 15th November, says that the restrictions on the employment of natives in the Forest Department have been removed; but this has done no practical good. The only disqualification of the natives for employment in that department is that they have no knowledge of its work. The want of schools for training men for the Forest Department is therefore much felt by the people of this country. Government should establish such schools.

SRIMANTA SADAGAR.

41. The same paper complains of some mismanagement in the Calcutta Currency Office. There is a rule that the Currency Office will remain open up to 3 P.M. for the purpose of transacting business with the public; but, as a matter of fact, many who go there before 3 P.M. cannot get their business done because the number of hands employed there is small. Government ought to increase the number of clerks in the Currency Office.

CHARU VARTA,
Nov. 28th, 1887.

42. The *Cháruvartá*, of the 28th November, recommends the establishment of Military schools in India on the model of the Woolwich Academy or the Sandhurst Military School in England for imparting military education to the natives of India. A sound military education will make even the Bengalis warlike. It is against justice and good policy to deprive the people of India, and especially the Bengalis, of a military training. If the natives are given a sound military education, and they join the army with enthusiasm, as in all probability they will, a large saving of public money will become

perfectly feasible. Government should abandon its policy of distrust of the Indian people.

43. A correspondent of the *Chattal Gazette*, of the 29th Noyember, brings the following charges against Moulavi Abdul Majid, Sub-Registrar of Chandpore in Chittagong :—

CHATTAL GAZETTE,
Nov. 29th, 1887.

The Sub-Registrar of Chandpore in Chittagong.

1. His hours of attendance are most irregular. This causes great public inconvenience.

2. He does not receive for registration documents for which certificates are not given by certain mukhtars.

3. He takes an additional fee of 8 annas over and above the regular fee prescribed by Government for the registration of deeds.

4. Parties presenting deeds for registration are required to contribute something towards the expenses of the construction of a mosque near his office.

5. He has not paid the price of the beams and posts purchased from one Ashrad Ali Chowdhury of Toilardip for the construction of the said mosque.

44. The *Aryāvarta*, of the 29th November, says that it points out the faults of Government in order that by their correction British rule may be firmly established in this country. There can be no doubt that the Government is very partial towards its own countrymen. As an instance, it is stated that while an English Engineer may enjoy furlough on half pay for three years after three years' service, a Native Engineer can enjoy no such privilege.

ARYAVARTA,
Nov. 29th, 1887.

Government's partiality for Englishmen.

45. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 30th November, says that numerous complaints are heard against Moulavi Wahid-uddin, Inspector of Post Offices in Rajshahye. It is stated that he ill-treats the Sub-Postmasters, and once turned out the head peon of the Beaulah Post Office when the latter was on duty at night; and that he has recently called the Postmaster of Ghoramara a liar.

HINDU RANJIKA,
Nov. 30th, 1887.

The Inspector of Post Offices, Rajshahye.

46. The same paper objects to the transfer of the office of the Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division from Beaulah to Saidpore. Rajshahye is a very important place in North Bengal, and the Commissioner's office should not be removed therefrom. The present Commissioner has not been able to make himself popular. He is rather unpopular on account of some of his acts.

HINDU RANJIKA.

47. The same paper strongly supports the petition made to the Postmaster-General, Bengal, by the inhabitants of Tahirpore and 50 neighbouring villages for connecting Tahirpore with the nearest railway station by means of telegraphic wires. The Postmaster General is requested to grant this just prayer.

HINDU RANJIKA.

A telegraph line to Tahirpore in Rajshahye.

48. The *Sahachar*, of the 30th November, says that the Railway Conference which was proposed to be held in Calcutta in February next, will be held at Simla. Such a Conference, held in Calcutta, would have shown that, being approachable by rail within a short time from all parts of India, Calcutta is the fittest place for being the capital of the British Indian Empire all the year round.

SAHACHAR,
Nov. 30th, 1887.

The proposed Railway Conference.

49. The *Bungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 1st December, requests the Bengal Government to grant the just prayer of the Indian Association for the abolition of the outstill system.

BUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
Dec. 1st, 1887.

The outstill system.

the outstill system.

GRAMDASI,
Dec. 1st, 1887.

50. The *Gramdasi*, of the 1st December, hopes that Sir Stuart Bayley will earn the gratitude of the people by abolishing the outstills in the Hooghly and Howrah districts.

GRAMDASI.

51. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the great prevalence of drunkenness among the lower classes of people in Midnapore. In many places both men and women are taking to drinking. The correspondent saw two or three low class young women behaving in a most shameless manner on a public road under the influence of liquor. A punkha-puller, only 10 years of age, has been heard to say that he drinks a quarter seer of wine every day.

URDU GUIDE,
Dec. 1st, 1887.

52. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 1st December, recommends that the natives should be given the power to express their views on the budget, and that the proposal of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce on this subject should be adopted.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
Dec. 1st, 1887.

53. The *Surabhi and Patāka*, of the 1st December, says that in the Government offices in the North-Western Provinces the number of native employés is only 222, while that of European employés is 536, and that the European employés get in the shape of salaries Rs. 32,32,564 a month, and the natives only Rs. 4,62,600. And yet the *Pioneer* newspaper says that Government, in these days, is showing more favour to natives than to Europeans!

SURABHI & PATAKA.

54. The same paper says that the report that the income-tax will be levied in Burmah has produced an excitement among the people of that country. This is precisely what a report of this kind would be expected to produce among a people who have never paid any tax. Instead of slaying the thrice slain, Government should first establish peace in Burmah and then think of doing what else it likes to do.

SURABHI & PATAKA.

55. The same paper cannot endorse the opinion of the Board of Revenue and of the Lieutenant-Governor that there has been no oppression in assessing the income-tax in 1886-87. The Board of Revenue may express any opinion it likes on such a question; but it is to be regretted that a man like Sir Stuart Bayley should place implicit faith in the correctness of that opinion.

SURABHI & PATAKA.

56. The same paper has learnt that most of the names found in the register of applicants for the Sub-Deputy Collectorship, kept in the office of Mr. Peacock in the Bengal Secretariat, are the names of the friends and relatives of persons serving in that office. Mr. Moreno, the Registrar, has got the name of one of his sons entered in that register. Similarly, a Hindu clerk of that office has also got his son-in-law's name registered. The qualifications of none of the candidates whose names are found in the register have been ascertained by examination. As the salary of the Sub-Deputy Collectorship is not very small, being Rs. 100 per month, it is desirable that, instead of selecting for that office by nomination half educated relatives of the officers in the Bengal Secretariat, candidates should be selected by a competitive examination. It is hoped that Sir Stuart Bayley will look to the matter.

SURABHI & PATAKA.

57. The same paper says that the Indian Art Exhibitions have a tendency to ruin the arts and manufactures of this country. For they only help English artizans and manufacturers to know the sort of goods the people of this

country require for ordinary use, and, in course of time, to prepare such goods themselves, and by selling them cheap in the Indian market to completely oust the Indian artizans and endanger their livelihood. In proof of this assertion, reference is made to the manufacture of cloth for the Indians in Manchester, and the consequent ruin of the entire race of weavers in this country. If these exhibitions continue to be held year after year, they will by and bye ruin other industries, such as that of the braziers, in this country. The Indian patriots should therefore do their best to save their country from this new and growing evil of these Art Exhibitions.

58. The *Pratikár*, of the 2nd December, heartily approves of the action of the Indian Association in memorializing Government to abolish the outstill system. Government is requested to save the country from ruin by abolishing that obnoxious system.

PRATIKAR,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

59. The *Samaya*, of the 2nd December, says that the income-tax assessors in the mofussil are often men of bad character. Many of them are not even free from corruption. The village people have felt quite harassed by their high-handedness and oppression. It is therefore desirable that the old system of having the tax assessed by Municipal Commissioners should be revived. The advantage of such a course will be perceived by both the Government and the people.

SAMAYA,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

60. The same paper thanks the Indian Association for sending its application to Government representing the evil effects of the outstill system, and says that the application has no chance of being favourably considered by Government, which will never consent to sacrifice revenue.

SAMAYA.

61. The *Praia Bandhu*, of the 2nd December, complains that Editors of the native papers are not furnished with the confidential report on native papers, and are thus unable to judge how their papers fare at the hands of the Government Translator. It was useless to ask Sir Rivers Thompson's Government for *anything*. But it is hoped that the just Sir Steuart Bayley will furnish native papers with this report. It is said that the Government of India has asked the Bengal Government to furnish it with a statement of the cost incurred in this connection. The writer will wait to see what comes of this inquiry.

PRAJA BANDHU,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

62. According to a correspondent of the same paper, there is truth in the statement made by another correspondent of this paper more than a year ago that the doctor in charge of the Bhadresvar Charitable Dispensary supplies medicines from the dispensary to his private patients. The Municipal Vice-Chairman and a Commissioner went to examine the accounts of the dispensary. But the doctor, far from showing them the accounts, did not even allow them to enter the dispensary. It is strange that the Municipal Chairman has taken no notice of the insult thus offered by the doctor who serves under them to the Vice-Chairman and the Commissioner.

PRAJA BANDHU.

63. The *Sanjivani*, of the 3rd December, says that it should be the principal duty of Magistrates while out on tour to mix with the mofussil people. But few Magistrates care to do so. The only important business on tour consists of the inspection of Courts. The following account of the mofussil tour of a Sub-divisional Officer, furnished by a correspondent, will show how these tours are in most cases made. The Sub-divisional Officer in question declared one day that he would set out on

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

his mofussil tour on the following day, and ordered the amlah and mukhtears of his Court to proceed to Chunarughat. But as soon as the amlah and mukhtears had reached that place, he declared that he would not go that day, and sent word to the amlah and mukhtears to return. But on coming to Court the next day, he declared that he would set out on his tour that very day, and sent word to the amlah and mukhtears not to return. But the amlah and the mukhtears having returned before this new order could be communicated to them, they were ordered to leave again for the mofussil. This capricious change of the programme of a tour is a typical instance. Mofussil tours are intended to serve the convenience of suitors; but the manner in which cases are tried by Magistrates while on tour is often very inconvenient to suitors, for the cases of parties living in one extremity of a district are often tried at some place in another extremity. Cases are also often tried without giving previous notice to the parties. The rule requiring Magistrates to give due notice of their movements is not often observed by them. Many Magistrates do indeed obey the rule which requires them to spend 120 days in the year in mofussil tours; but they generally spend all that time in some favourite places. These magisterial tours are thus made in a way which is not at all beneficial to the people, and the money spent in making tours is therefore wasted. Magistrates may, if they please, turn their tours to excellent account, by inducing people to get their cases decided by arbitration, by instructing the cultivators in improved methods of agriculture, by advising capitalists to establish manufactories, and by improving the health of the country by the excavation of canals and tanks. Sir Steuart Bayley is requested to adopt means for making these magisterial tours useful to the people.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

64. The same paper says that the arguments made use of by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce in its petition to Government for the discussion of the budget in the Viceregal Council prove the necessity for a thorough reformation of the Legislative Councils. It is therefore surprising to find the Chamber expressing its opinion that the time has not yet arrived for a thorough reformation of the Legislative Councils. The discussion of the budget in a Council, not re-constituted on a representative basis, will be of no use, because the *ap-lee-waste* Members of the Council will surely support the financial measures of Government. So long as the influence of public opinion is not directly felt in the Legislative Councils, no good can be expected to be derived from them. The fact that Government has been able to defy the strong opinion existing in the country against the income-tax and the Simla exodus proves that it will be impossible to check it without placing the Legislative Councils on an elective basis.

AKHBAR-I-DARU-
SALTANAT,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

65. The *Akhbar-i-darusaltanat*, of the 3rd December, says that the Mussulmans will not be able to enter the Statutory Civil Service under the competitive system. Lord Dufferin and Sir Steuart Bayley are requested to alter the rules in such a way as will enable Mussulmans to enter that service.

BANGARASI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

66. The *Bangabasi*, of the 3rd December, says that the position of Government with regard to Sir Lepel Griffin is most delicate. If Sir Lepel is let off without any public enquiry, there will be a blot on the British administration in India which will never be effaced. If, on the other hand, the proceedings of Sir Lepel are allowed to be publicly discussed, it is feared that many unpleasant official secrets will be brought to light. The readers of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* have, however, begun to regard the Political Officers of Government with both hatred and contempt. This is perfectly natural.

If there be a jot of truth in the statements published in that newspaper regarding the ill-treatment of the Begums of Bhopal, the whole class of Political Officers should be at once dismissed.

67. A correspondent of the same paper says that the establishment of an outstill near Mohonpore, a village in the Pabna district, has increased drunkenness in that place. The extension of the outstill system is doing endless mischief in that part of the country, but Government is apparently blinded by self-interest and pays no attention to the condition of its subjects.

68. The same paper does not agree with the Board of Revenue in thinking that no oppression was committed last year by the Income-tax Assessors in Bengal. It appears from the official report that the income-tax collections amounted last year to Rs. 35,76,437, that few complaints were made against the assessments, and that due consideration was shown to all who complained of undue assessment. But the cases of oppression committed by the assessors in the Town of Calcutta itself and in its Suburbs were so many and of such a character that there can be no doubt that still greater oppression must have been committed in the far mofussil.

69. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 5th December, is glad to find Mr. Edgar appointed Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal. Mr. Edgar has already given proofs of his ability and impartiality. Mr. Peacock's ascendancy in the Bengal Secretariat was the cause of much mischief to the people of this country. The noble Sir Stuart Bayley is now the ruler of Bengal, and he has found a fit counsellor in Mr. Edgar. It is hoped that with Mr. Edgar's co-operation Sir Stuart Bayley's administration will prove beneficial to the people of Bengal.

70. The same paper takes exception to the entertainment, at an extra cost to Government, of an officer in the Bengal Secretariat for the preparation of the Administration Report. Nowhere in India are the Secretaries to Government so highly paid as in Bengal. The services of Mr. O'Donnell have been entertained in connection with the preparation of the Administration Report for 1886-87. Mr. O'Donnell will only have to revise the proof sheets of the reports of the several departments of the Government. But there is a Superintendent of the Press attached to the Bengal Secretariat, who gets Rs. 1,000 a month, who should be able to do this work. Why then entertain another officer at an extra cost to Government?

71. The *Som Prakash*, of the 5th December, cannot agree with the Lieutenant-Governor in thinking that there is no oppression in the collection of the income-tax. Even in Calcutta many persons have been obliged to give up trade on account of the unjust assessments made against them. Government's promise of keeping all information in its possession about the incomes of its subjects secret, is also about to be violated. The Board of Revenue has recently passed a rule under which all collectorate officers will be able to see accounts of incomes. It is hoped that the Viceroy will interfere in the matter.

72. The same paper says that all India is resounding with the wails of its miserable and poverty-stricken people, but Government is perfectly indifferent to their distress. Government sees that it can raise money by loans, and it therefore thinks that statesmanship consists in being able to make loans. But Indian economists do not approve a borrowing policy. The fact is that the distress of the Indian people has

BANGARANI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887

BANGARANI.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Dec. 5th, 1887.

DACCA GAZETTE.

SOM PRAKASH,
Dec. 5th, 1887.

SOM PRAKASH

become unbearable, and it has become the first and most urgent duty of the Government to adapt its financial policy to their present woful condition. If Government pays no heed to the present popular distress, serious consequences will arise. The writer loves British rule, and that is why he entreats Government to change its policy.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Dec. 5th, 1887.

73. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 5th December, says that the proposal for a thorough reformation of the Viceregal Council will be startling to Englishmen, so if such a proposal is made it is sure to be rejected. But if instead of demanding a Legislative Council upon the model of the British Parliament, the natives ask for one or two elected members from each province, and for the extension of the sphere of the Council's work by permitting a discussion at the end of every year of all the Government measures of that year, and also of the budget as proposed by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the prayer may be considered reasonable and may probably be granted. The budget should be discussed every year, whether new taxes are imposed or not. The question how existing taxes are collected, and whether public money is wasted or not, is of very great importance and demands full discussion in the Viceregal Council.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Dec. 5th, 1887.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 5th, 1887.

74. The *Dainik of and Samachar Chandrika* the 5th December consider it strange that the *Pioneer* should, in the face of the fact that two thousand seven hundred and seven men and fifty-seven thousand five hundred and forty-one domestic animals were killed by wild beasts during the year 1885, characterise as senseless the demand of the native press for a repeal of the Arms Act. It is true that licenses to keep arms for the destruction of wild beasts are freely given; but it is, as a matter of fact, very difficult to obtain these licenses. The ways of the law courts are tortuous, and men do not venture to ask for licenses from the fear lest they should, in doing so, fall into any unknown difficulty. For these reasons Government is earnestly entreated to repeal the Arms Act.

AL PUNCH,
Dec. 5th, 1887.

75. An anonymous zemindar correspondent of *Al Punch*, of the 5th December, says that the Hakim of the locality in which he lives set out on his mofussil tour on the 12th November last, and will protract his tour till February, in order to swell his travelling allowance. He troubles himself about nothing, and is satisfied if he only obtains fowls and eggs from the zemindars.

URDU GUIDE,
Dec. 7th, 1887.

76. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 7th December, agrees in the view expressed in the address presented to the Viceroy by the Sindh Branch of the Mahomedan Association that Government does not make proper efforts to remove the grievances of the Mussulmans.

URDU GUIDE,
Dec. 7th, 1887.

DHUMKETU,
Dec. 2nd 1887.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.
77. The *Dhunketu*, of the 2nd December, referring to the offer of pecuniary help and of military assistance made by the guardians of the minor Maharaja of Puttiala, says that these men, who are going to win the favour of Government by spending another man's money, are true guardians indeed!

PRAJA BANDHU,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

78. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 2nd December, referring to the rumour that the guardians of the minor Maharaja of Puttiala have made offers of pecuniary help to Government, says that it cannot understand how they will waste the minor's money in this way. Will not such an act amount to a breach of trust on their part?

79. The *Bangabasi*, of the 3rd December, disapproves of the Maharaja of Cooch Behar's prolonged stay in England. It is said that rack-renting has compelled some of the Maharaja's subjects to leave their hearths and homes and to settle beyond the Maharaja's territories. On the other hand, the Maharaja's treasury is empty. And in this state of financial difficulty of the Cooch Behar State, Major Gordon, the Manager of the Cooch Behar Raj, has spent 10 or 12 thousand rupees in horse-racing. He has also by one stroke of his pen made over to the Committee of the Jubilee Sanitarium at Darjeeling the Maharaja's palace at that place known as the Bryngwyn. These are small matters: more serious complaints have been heard from Cooch Behar. It is hoped that the Maharaja's attention will be drawn to the existing mismanagement in his State.

BANGABASI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

SAR SUDHANIDHI
Nov. 28th, 1887.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

80. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 29th November, says that it is true, as the Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs has said, that the ryots in the Presidency Division now live more luxuriously than before. But that does not prove that their condition has really improved. They now live from hand to mouth, which was not the case before; for their income from the sale of agricultural produce is now spent in purchasing European goods. They are now, therefore, always in want of money, and they experience great difficulty in meeting the demands of the zemindars. Their condition can hardly be characterised as one of real happiness, as their Magistrate seems to think.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 29th, 1887.

81. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 3rd December, says that the paddy crop in Talari, Naldari, Bural, Paja and Krishnapore, within the jurisdiction of the Achipore thana in the 24-Pergunnahs, over an area of 5,000 bighas, is withering for want of water. The ryots asked the permission of the District Magistrate to use the water of the *khal* near Talari for irrigating their fields. The Magistrate directed them to apply to the District Engineer, who again has directed them to refer the matter to the District Magistrate. In despair the ryots have taken no other steps. Their crops might have been saved if the District Magistrate had granted their prayer. Such permission as they sought for was granted in former years. Who will now be held responsible for this failure of their crops?

BANGABASI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

82. The *Sar Sudhanidhi*, of the 28th November, says that the Government should not accept the proposal of the allopathic doctors in Calcutta that no one who shall not have passed the medical examinations of the Calcutta University, or received a diploma from the proposed Medical Board, should be allowed to practise the medical profession. This proposal of the allopathic doctors has been made solely with the view of increasing their own income and enlarging the area of their own practice.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
Nov. 28th, 1887.

83. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 29th November, thus examines some of the proposals submitted by Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee to the National Congress:—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 29th, 1887.

1. Baboo Surendra Nath's first proposal relates to the constitution of the Legislative Councils on a representative basis. Regarding this it is stated that the proposal is impracticable.

Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee's proposals before the National Congress.

8. His second proposal refers to the subject of local self-government in this country. With reference to this, it is observed that local self-government has already been introduced into this country, and its further development must be expected to take place in time and not at once.

8. The third proposal made by Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee relates to the poverty of India. Now, the poverty of India is owing to the large importation of European goods into the country and the consequent destruction of native trades and manufactures. In order to stop the influx of European goods, it is necessary that the natives should successfully compete with Europeans in manufacturing industry. But this cannot be done without the help of machinery. The people of this country should therefore try to construct and work machines. The people of Bombay understand this, as appears from the fact of their having set up mills in their own province. The Bengalis, on the other hand, who still love to spend money in the purchase of landed property, have yet to learn this lesson. This, then, is one of the means by which the condition of the people may be improved. Baboo Surendra Nath's opinion, that the poverty of the country will not be removed unless and until Government becomes more representative in character than it is at present, and the natives are more largely appointed to the public service, is not sound.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 29th, 1887.

84. A correspondent of the same paper says that a woman was drowned near the bridge at Matigunj near Santipur during the last rainy season. As accidents of this description happen every year, it is desirable that the local authorities should prohibit people from bathing near the bridge.

CHATTAL GAZETTE,
Nov. 29th, 1887.

85. The *Chattal Gazette*, of the 29th November, is glad to find Mr. Lyall confirmed in his appointment as Commissioner of the Chittagong Division. It is hoped that the grievances of the people of the Chittagong Division will now be removed.

SAHACHAR,
Nov. 30th, 1887.

86. The *Sahachar*, of the 30th November, says that a movement like the National Congress cannot be the product of one day. People did not wake on a fine summer morning and find it accomplished. Such a movement presupposes long years of thought and culture. Its idea must have for a long time lain unperceived in the Indian mind, and education and culture have caused it to develop, and there can be no doubt that as years roll away this movement will develop still further and acquire greater strength and influence. There are indeed signs even now that the Congress will in the long run bear down all opposition. Last year, the Mahomedans of Bengal kept aloof from it. But this year, they are heartily joining it. Even Nawab Abdul Lutif writes from Lucknow that he has not forbidden the Mahomedans of Behar to join the Congress. The Nawab deserves thanks for this. The Mahomedans of Behar have in fact joined the Congress. Many Anglo-Indians fully sympathise with the movement, and the force of the Anglo-Indian opposition against it seems to have abated this year. The Governor-General is in favour of the movement rather than against it, and the movement has no fear of meeting with opposition from the different Provincial Governors. For men like Sir Rivers Thompson, Mr. Grant Duff and Sir Alfred Lyall are no longer at the head of the Provincial Administrations. Any opposition, again, that still remains among the Anglo-Indians will not do much harm, for everybody now knows what Anglo-Indian opposition in such matters really means, and no importance will therefore be attached to it. As India is inhabited by a people divided into numerous sects and nationalities and professing different religions, the Congress, in order to preserve its natural character, should confine itself to the discussion of questions in which all India

has a common interest. It should also avoid all collision with the British Government in India, and try to impress people with a sense of the benefit which that Government has conferred and is still conferring on them. The subject of reconstitution of the Legislative Councils on a representative basis will no doubt engage the attention of the Congress. That it is desirable to have representative Legislative Councils cannot be questioned by statesmen like Lord Dufferin.

87. The *Bharat Mitra*, of the 1st December, recommends that, in order to prevent low class people from practising as

Hakims and Kavirajes.

be instituted for those who want to practise in those capacities.

88. The *Grambasi*, of the 1st December, requests the leaders of Hindu society to make an organised effort to pre-

The sale of cows to butchers.

vent the sale of cows to butchers. The leaders of society in the villages possess immense influence, and they may be able to do much if they exert themselves in this direction.

89. The *Sulabha Samachar and Kushdaha*, of the 2nd December, takes the following regarding the late ex-King of

The late ex-King of Oudh.

Oudh from an Urdu paper called the *Gauhar*:— When the Nawab was on his death-bed, a man named Wazir Mun-surru-nd-Dowlah came in and asked him to take a little *chutni*. On the Nawab's refusing to do so, the Wazir took some powder out of his pocket and mixed it with his *chutni* and forced the stuff into his mouth, and a servant poured water into his mouth. A short time after this the Nawab expired.

90. The *Samaya*, of the 2nd December, says that, actuated by the self-fish desire to improve and extend their own

Ruin of Indian arts and manu-factures.

commerce, Englishmen have not shrunk from destroying the arts and manufactures of India. That exquisite workmanship in ivory, for which Murshidabad was once so famous, and the incomparable muslin of Dacca are now things of the past. It is said that in Dacca there is only one man who knows how to make muslin. With his death, the celebrated and historic muslin manufacture of Dacca will also die.

Government, which feels thunderstruck at any decrease of the importation of English goods into India, and moves heaven and earth for the purpose of ascertaining the cause thereof, is looking on with apparent unconcern, while the arts and manufactures of India are being ruined one after another.

91. The same paper says that, under the present constitution of the British Government in India, people have very

Government and the National Congress.

limited means of making their grievances heard by it. Having regard to this fact, it behoves the Government to give a favourable hearing to any suggestions in this direction which may be made by the representatives of the Indian people, and as the National Congress is a representative body, Government should not disregard the proposals which may be made by it. It should also bear in mind that it is impossible to govern a country for ever by brute force, and that concessions have to be made to popular demands from time to time.

92. The same paper says that the coolie-recruiters are in the habit of enticing away people from all parts of the

The tea-planters of Assam.

country and sending them to the tea-gardens of Assam. Before reaching their destination, these men hardly know where they are going.

In the tea-gardens the coolies are underfed and overworked, and that is why the number of sick people is so large among them. The rate

RHARAT MITRA,
Dec. 1st, 1887.

GRAMBASI,
Dec. 1st, 1887.

SULABHA SAMACHAR &
KUSHDAHA,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

MAHARAJA SAMACHAR
KUSHDAHA,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

SAMAYA,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

SAMAYA.

SAMAYA.

of mortality among the coolies in Assam is not correctly stated in the death registers annually submitted to Government; for the register is filled chiefly with the names of those coolies who die in the hospitals. The names of those who die in the gardens are not noticed in it. It is therefore desirable that a register stating the number of coolies sent to each garden should be submitted to the Magistrates. For by comparing the number of coolies in such a register with that kept in a garden, the exact number of missing coolies can be easily ascertained.

The coolies are not allowed leave in sickness. They have to work so long as any strength remains in them; and when they become utterly unfit for work, they are expelled from the gardens.

The t-a-planters are a hard-hearted set of men. They are generally of low extraction and half educated. It is no wonder that they should be men of the worst propensities. As they are on very good terms with Magistrates and Commissioners, they often commit offences with impunity; and this leaning towards them on the part of the Magistrates and other high officers of Government is the thing which enables them to carry matters in so high-handed a style and to behave so recklessly.

DHUMKETU,
Dec. 2nd, 1887.

93. The *Dhumketu*, of the 2nd December, says that the English Government seeks only to wring as much money from the Indians as it can, and is utterly indifferent to their sufferings and their miserable condition. It is boasting before the civilized world that it is civilising the Indians, while, as a matter of fact, it is only corrupting their religion and manners and customs by giving them wrong education. The sufferings of the Indians have reached their climax, and that they still live is simply because their patience is without bounds and their life tenacious to a degree. The Government is content with realizing its taxes, and leaves its officials to do just as they please. All Indians, from the highest prince to the meanest peasant, are mere toys in the hands of these officials. These oppressions have cast a gloom over the minds of the people. Every part of the country is stained with blood flowing from the lacerated backs of the people, and is full of wailing and lamentation. These officers of Government are forcing princesses to live apart from their husbands. They are repressing some princes and annexing the States of others. They are telling fathers to induce their daughters to sacrifice their chastity in order to gratify their own lust. They are sometimes violating the chastity of pure women themselves, and shooting men under the pretext of hunting. Then there are the tea and indigo-planters. These men have, by their oppressions, converted the Beerboom district into a desert. They play with the lives of the labourers and gratify their beastly passions by violating the chastity of the coolie women. These despicable beings are having it all their own way in India. These men threaten to rebel whenever Government proposes to confer any benefit upon the Indians. There are also the Anglo-Indian merchants who are not satisfied with their vast profits and who hate the Indians. India has in short become a scene of English oppression. Will Providence never make it the sacred land that it once was?

BANGABASI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

94. The *Bangabasi*, of the 3rd December, says that Englishmen not content with reducing Maharaja Dhuleep Singh to the condition of a beggar, are now giving currency to the scandal that he is not the son of Runjit Singh, but of a Jat soldier. Another Englishman says that he is the son of a mehter. These men fancy that stories of this kind if circulated will lower Dhuleep Singh in the estimation of the Sikhs. But the probability is that they will produce a very different effect to what is intended. These stories will only wound the feelings of the Sikhs in a manner which will not be very favourable for the English people.

The poverty of India.

95. The *Sanjivani*, of the 3rd December, says that India is becoming poor because she has to maintain highly-paid English officials.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 3rd, 1887.

96. The same paper says that the horrors of American slavery have been depicted in histories and novels. But a slavery more horrible than the American slavery exists in India. The National Congress will neglect its duty if it does not try to put an end to the practice of recruiting coolies by deceitful means, and to the horrors and miseries of Indian coolie life.

SANJIVANI.

The National Congress, coolie recruitment, and coolie life.

97. A correspondent of the same paper recommends that, as repeated representations regarding the misdeeds of the tea-planters of Assam have failed to draw the attention of Government to the matter, it is now for the natives themselves to adopt a really effective means for suppressing the evil. A large number of educated Indians now drink tea. Well, let them stop drinking tea, for drinking Assam tea is nothing more or less than drinking the blood of the poor, persecuted coolie.

SANJIVANI.

98. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 5th December, says that in former years the Editors of the *Hindu Patriot* and the *Indian Mirror* were present at the St. Andrew's Dinner.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 5th, 1887.

99. The same paper says that the English people are the real masters of the English Government, and therefore the officials of the English Government are obliged to destroy native industries for the benefit of their real rulers, the English people. It will therefore be foolish to hope for any encouragement of native industries from the English officials. But native industries may be encouraged by the natives themselves if their men and women desist from adopting English ways and using English articles. The Baboos of Bengal are the principal cause of the destruction of the native industries, and the country will not fare well until the whole race of Baboos is extirpated.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

100. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 5th December, wishes that Sir Auckland Colvin, who has attained to his father's dignity, will also acquire his fame. Sir Auckland should appoint educated natives to high posts in his provinces, make satisfactory arrangements for progress of education therein, check that overpowering official ascendancy which has made the people of his provinces spiritless, and remove the disqualification which the Bengalis residing within his territories labour under in respect to employment in the public service therein.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI
Dec. 5th, 1887.

101. The *Som Prakash*, of the 5th December, says that every man in Bengal will be glad to see Mr. Edgar confirmed in his appointment as Chief Secretary to the Bengal Government. Mr. Edgar is a very able and just man. Now that Sir Stuart Bayley is the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and Mr. Edgar is his chief counsellor, much good may be expected by the people.

SOM PRAKASH,
Dec. 5th, 1887.

102. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 8th December, says that the *Englishman* newspaper is now writing in a very friendly tone about the native princes. It is professing very great friendship for them, greater friendship, that is, than even the native press ever professed for them. This is calculated to excite grave suspicions about the real intentions of the leading Anglo-Indian journals. The financial condition of most of the Native States is not satisfactory. These States

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 8th, 1887.

The *Englishman* newspaper and the native press.

have wants which their rulers are not in a position to supply. Under these circumstances the subjects of the native princes will be dissatisfied if money is given by the Native States and taken by the Government of India. For the native princes will raise from their subjects by means of illegal cesses whatever money they will give to Government. The British Government has promised to promote the happiness and prosperity of the subjects of the native princes. It should not, therefore, by accepting these offers of help, encourage the native princes in the commission of acts of oppression against their subjects, and in levying extra cesses from them. The Anglo-Indian papers are praising the native princes, because they want to see the Native States weakened. It has been repeatedly pointed out in the native press that the acceptance of these offers will do incalculable harm to the Government, and to the native princes in general, and therefore, in an indirect sort of way to the whole country. If the native press, then, does not protest against the acceptance of such offers, it will be wanting in the discharge of its duty. The native press can never take up the attitude which the Anglo-Indian press has taken up on the question of these donations from the native princes. The Anglo-Indians may revile the native press for this, but the native press will on no account encourage such disgraceful transactions as will be prejudicial to the highest interests of the British Government in India. The Viceroy has been advised by the Anglo-Indian press to revive the Press Act. Well, if an attempt is made to gag the native press alone, most of the native papers will cease to exist and the Government will thus be deprived of the only means existing in the country for making known to it genuine native opinion and genuine native wants and grievances. The Government of India can, in fact, do without the Anglo-Indian Press; but it cannot do without the native press.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 10th December 1887.